d) illuminating the microscopic sorbent zone with a laser in the absence of liquid;

e) detecting fluorescence emissions from any microscopic sorbent zone having an analyte capture complex tagged with a fluorescent label, thereby determining the analyte mass harvested from the defined volume of sample.

C1

2. (Amended) An assay according to claim 27 wherein the substrate is selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polystyrene, polyethylene, polypropylene, and polymethylmethacrylate.

C2

Sub D2

23. (Amended) An analyte binding array for harvesting analyte from a liquid sample, the array comprising a plurality of microscopic sorbent zones immobilized on a substrate, wherein a microscopic sorbent zone comprises an analyte binding partner, the analyte binding partner being present in an amount sufficient to substantially deplete the analyte from a sample and concentrate the analyte on the microscopic sorbent zone, the microscopic zone being from about 60 to about 500 μm in diameter and the sample containing about 10^5 to about 10^{10} molecules of analyte per 100 μl of the sample, wherein a volume of the sample is from 20 to 500 μl.

C3

Sub D3

26. (Amended) A kit for use in a binding assay that senses analyte mass in a liquid sample of a defined volume, comprising an analyte binding array and a container comprising labeled binding partner,

wherein the analyte binding array comprises a plurality of microscopic sorbent zones immobilized on a substrate, wherein a microscopic sorbent zone comprises an analyte binding partner, the analyte binding partner being present in excess relative to the analyte, so that any analyte present in the defined volume of the sample is substantially depleted from the sample and concentrated on the microscopic sorbent zone to form an analyte capture complex with the analyte binding partner, and

the labeled binding partner having a fluorescent label and being capable of binding to an analyte bound by an analyte binding partner.